IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEC 3 0

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

APPLICANT: Runge, M. S. et al.

FILED: April 10, 2001

SERIAL NO.: 09/832,069

FOR: Mitochondrial DNA Damage as a Predictor

Of Coronary Atherosclerotic Heart Disease

EXAMINER: Goldberg, J.

1634

DOCKET:

ART UNIT:

D6179CIP

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents **BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT** Washington, D.C. 20231

CERIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8 that the following correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to The Honorable Commissioner of Patents, Washington DC 20231.

> Response (13 pages); 1)

Terminal Disclaimer To Obviate; 2)

2) Return Postcard.

Please return the enclosed postcard acknowledging receipt of this correspondence.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: DU 16,20

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Counsel for Applicants Registration No. 35,423

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RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Responsive to the Office Action mailed November 20, 2002 in the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following remarks. consider the and following amendments Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A method of evaluating the atherosclerotic state of an individual, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) collecting a tissue of interest from said individual;